

SUCCESS STORIES

ORPHANS NO MORE

By Terri Thompson

Siena and Lucia, two orphans, arrived at the shelter weighing 5 and 7 ounces. Bottle babies, we call them. We were not sure they would make it, but after 4 days of bottle feedings every 4 hours and a series of antibiotics, they turned the corner. As they grew stronger, they became fast friends and our favorites out of the 20 kittens we've fostered. Only a very special person was going to be suitable for our "girls." When it came time to transfer them, I knew they would be happy in their new home, even though it broke my heart to say good-bye.



home?" I reply, "Because that's what fostering is, to bring up, nurture, cultivate and encourage-and then see them go into a new home so I can do it all over again with more animals." Sure enough, I got an e-mail the day after Siena and Lucia's adoption asking foster parents to help out with more sick kittens. That night I picked up two more. What can I say? I'm a foster mum!

SHOW STEALER

By Robin Wolff

Mia, a fourteen-week old Labrador and hound mix, was just a puppy when we first saw her. An animal control officer had



found her injured with multiple fractures. The owners told the staff at the animal emergency hospital where Mia was treated that they would not pay for the services because Mia was part of an unwanted litter. While euthanasia was the solution for her original owners, it was not an option for the volunteers at the Seattle Animal Shelter. Mia arrived at the shelter the following day, her leg in a bulky and awkward cast to stabilize her injuries. She was bursting with puppy enthusiasm, despite a leg brace and a neck collar that limited her movement.

Twas the 2000 holiday season, so volunteer Robin Wolff decided to bring Mia, her best candidate at the time, to a corporate holiday party. Her goal: to raise awareness of homeless and injured animals and the Help the Animals Fund. Mia stole the show at the party. In her sweet way, she tugged the heartstrings of one executive who ultimately authorized the company to sponsor the **2001 Furry 5K Fun Run & Walk** fundraiser. But Mia accomplished even more on that December night. She also inspired at least two families to adopt an animal before the end of that year. Mia's foster parents adopted her on Valentine's Day 2001. She celebrated her first birthday this past August and is still promoting the foster care program and telling her success story at shelter fundraisers and local events.

COCOA: BEAUTY IS THE BEAST

Just as the 1991 Disney classic "Beauty and the Beast" taught us, **Cocoa** is a living reminder that true beauty "lies within."

This chocolate brown American Pit Bull Terrier puppy, who may have been the runt of his litter, arrived at the Seattle Animal Shelter in August 2000 after what likely was a life of abandonment. Undernourished and covered with mange, Cocoa had managed to stay alive by charming passerbyers for a few scraps of food and pets of encouragement.

Cocoa immediately won over the heart of the veterinarian at Carkeek Animal Hospital, who treated his serious skin condition and encouraged shelter staff to give him the second chance that foster care offered. Even then, disheveled, homeless, and hairless over much of his body, his inner beauty, affable nature and immense desire to please could not be overlooked. After months in a loving foster home, Cocoa literally beamed with his tremendous character and quickly learned skills. He became one of the most social, friendly and regular dogs to visit Seattle off-leash parks.

His rough start did not douse his indomitable spirit. Rather, he showed an extraordinary ability to adapt to any situation. He also possessed an amazing and steadfast trust in his caretakers. His desire to please has taken him beyond following simple training commands to a disposition most dogs don't develop—even after years of training. Cocoa lives in a permanent home in Bremerton with his new parents, both active retirees. He goes everywhere with them, from the local grocery store to ferry rides to endless hikes on the Olympic Peninsula. Of course, he stops every chance he gets to greet other people and their dogs. He most enjoys napping with his parents on the cedar swing on their back deck. Cocoa continues to amaze people with his gentle composure, quirky character and loving companionship. Undoubtedly, he will continue to provide years of love and devotion to his family, thanks to the compassion shown to him by those who saw the beauty within!



ANTI-CRUELTY CAMPAIGN

SAS LAUNCHES ANTI-CRUELTY TRANSIT CAMPAIGN

Reporting animal abuse is the first step in stopping it. The Seattle Animal Shelter is taking this vital message to the streets through a new Anti-cruelty Transit Campaign. In partnership with King County Metro Transit, SAS posted ads on the sides of 120 Metro buses in the Seattle area in August 2001. The ads, encouraging people to report cases of animal abuse, ran for more than a month and will also be seen on buses in Snohomish County during October and November.

With the increased awareness, we are receiving more calls from citizens concerned about animals in need. On these "welfare checks," an animal control officer visits the location to observe, investigate and take action if needed.

"Our greatest asset is the public," says Steve Couvion, SAS Enforcement Supervisor. "Citizens are moved when they see an animal in a bad situation. Without their calls, we would have no way of knowing what is taking place." As a result of citizen action, a number of animal cruelty cases are currently being prepared for the courts.

While some people are reluctant to report what they see, animal abuse is often just the tip of the iceberg. It's not unusual to find that children and spouses are also in jeopardy in the same household. Violence is not a singular act, but a cycle that needs to be broken! We hope that this campaign will make people aware of the importance of reporting animal abuse.



Report Animal Abuse

Help end the silent suffering.

SEATTLE
animal shelter
(206) 386-PETS

THIRD ANNUAL DOG HOUSE DRIVE

While SAS does not encourage pet owners to leave their animals outside during the winter months, we know that some people may not be able to bring them in. But cats and dogs require shelter from the wind, rain and cold.

If you would like to donate new or gently used plastic dog igloos only, we will redistribute them to animals in need. Please bring your donation to the Seattle Animal Shelter, 2061 15th Ave. W. in Seattle (one mile south of the Ballard Bridge). THANK YOU!



SEASONAL TIPS

Allowing your dog to drink from rain puddles can be deadly. Standing water may contain oil, anti-freeze, windshield wiper fluid or parasites. If your dog becomes sick after drinking from a puddle, visit your veterinarian immediately. Or contact the ASPCA's Poison Control Center at www.napcc.aspc.org or 1-888-4-ANI-HELP



Animal caretakers are violating the law if they fail to provide their animal with:

- food, water, and shelter
- veterinary care
- sanitation, air, light, and appropriate space
- proper collars and grooming or
- if they have an excessive number of pets
- if they are physically abusing their animal